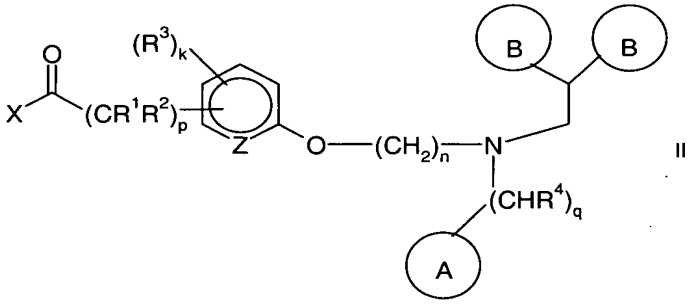
Amendments to the claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original): A method of treating or preventing IBD in a mammal; comprising, administering a therapeutically effective amount of LXR agonist, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, or physiologically functional derivative thereof.

2. (Original): The method of claim 1 in which IBD is selected from the group consisting of Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, and inflammatory colitis caused by bacteria, ischemia, radiation, drugs or chemical substances.

3. (Currently amended): The method according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the LXR agonist is a compound of formula (II):



II

wherein:

X is OH or NH_2;

p is 0-6;

each R^1 and R^2 are the same or different and are each independently selected from the group consisting of H, C_{1-8}alkyl, C_{1-8}alkoxy and C_{1-8}thioalkyl;

Z is CH or N;

when Z is CH, k is 0-4;

when Z is N, k is 0-3;

each R^3 is the same or different and is independently selected from the group consisting of halo, –OH, C_{1-8}alkyl, C_{2-8}alkenyl, C_{1-8}alkoxy, C_{2-8}alkenyloxy, $-S(O)_aR^6$, $-NR^7R^8$, $-COR^6$, $COOR^6$, $R^{10}COOR^6$, $OR^{10}COOR^6$, $CONR^7R^8$, $-OC(O)R^9$, $-R^{10}NR^7R^8$, $-OR^{10}NR^7R^8$, 5-6 membered heterocycle, nitro, and cyano;

a is 0, 1 or 2;

R^6 is selected from the group consisting of H, C_{1-8}alkyl, C_{1-8}alkoxy and C_{2-8}alkenyl;

each R^7 and R^8 are the same or different and are each independently selected from the group consisting of H, C_{1-8}alkyl, C_{2-8}alkenyl, C_{3-8}alkynyl;

R^9 is selected from the group consisting of H, C_{1-8}alkyl and $-NR^7R^8$;

R^{10} is C_{1-8}alkyl;

n is 2-8;

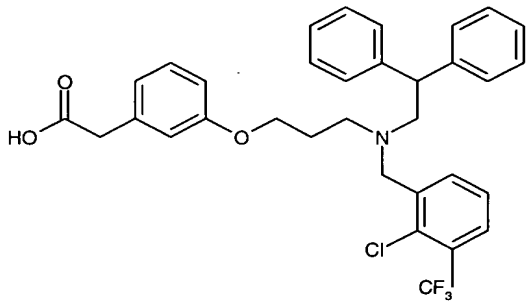
q is 0 or 1;

R^4 is selected from the group consisting of H, C_{1-8}alkyl, C_{1-8}alkenyl, and alkenyloxy;

Ring A is selected from the group consisting of C_{3-8}cycloalkyl, aryl, 4-8 membered heterocycle, and 5-6 membered heteroaryl;

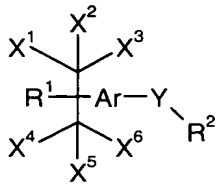
each ring B is the same or different and is independently selected from the group consisting of C_{3-8}cycloalkyl and aryl.

4. (Original): The method according to claim 3, in which the LXR agonist is the compound of formula (IIa)



(IIa)

5. (Currently amended): The method according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the LXR agonist is a compound of compounds of formula (I):



(I)

wherein:

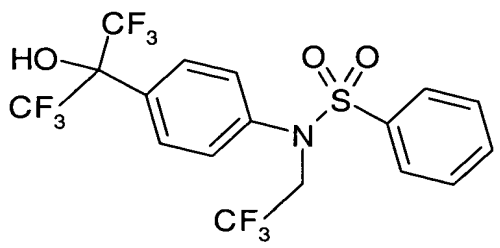
Ar represents an aryl group;R^1 is –OH, -O-(C_1-C_7)alkyl, -OC(O)-(C_1-C_7)alkyl, -O-(C_1-C_7)heteroalkyl, -OC(O)- (C_1-C_7)heteroalkyl, -CO_2H, -NH_2, -NH(C_1-C_7)alkyl, -N((C_1-C_7)alkyl)$_2$ or –NH-S(O)$_2$-(C_1-C_5)alkyl;

R^2 is (C_1-C_7)alkyl, (C_1-C_7)heteroalkyl, aryl and aryl(C_1-C_7)alkyl;

X^1, X^2, X^3, X^4, X^5 and X^6 are each independently H, (C_1-C_5)alkyl, (C_1-C_5)hetroalkyl, F or Cl, with the proviso that no more than three of X^1 through X^6 are H, (C_1-C_5)alkyl or (C_1-C_5)heteroalkyl; and

Y is –N(R^{12})S(O)$_m$-, -N(R^{12})S(O)$_m$N(R^{13})-, -N(R^{12})C(O)-, –N(R^{12})C(O)N(R^{13})-, -N(R^{12})C(S)- or -N(R^{12})C(O)O-, wherein R12 and R13 are each independently hydrogen, (C_1-C_7)aryl, (C_1-C_7)heteroalkyl, aryl and aryl(C_1-C_7)alkyl, and optionally when Y is –N(R^{12})S(O)$_m$- or -N(R^{12})S(O)$_m$N(R^{13})-, R^{12} forms a five, six or seven-membered ring fused to Ar or to R^2 through covalent attachment to Ar or R^2, respectively. In the above Y groups, the subscript m is an integer of from 1 to 2.

6. (Original): The method according to claim 5, in which the LXR agonist is the compound of formula Ia



Ia